

METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 2a

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> Jake Mackenzie Sonoma County and Cities

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Steve Heminger Executive Director

Alix Bockelman
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

Andrew B. Fremier
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

Legislation Committee November 14, 2014 **Minutes**

Attendance

Committee Chair Haggerty called the Legislation Committee meeting to order at 11:25 a.m. Committee members in attendance were Commissioners Giacopini, Halsted, Kinsey, Luce, Mackenzie and Spering. Also in attendance as ex-officio voting members were Commission Chair Rein Worth and Vice Chair Dave Cortese. Commissioners Bates and Weiner were present as ad hoc non-voting members of the Committee.

Consent Calendar

The consent calendar was unanimously approved after a motion by Commissioner Mackenzie and a second by Commissioner Spering.

November 2014 Election: Impact on Transportation

Rebecca Long, MTC staff, presented the report. Steve Heminger, MTC's Executive Director, informed the Committee that the next election is projected to include transportation sales taxes in San Francisco, Santa Clara County and Contra Costa Counties.

Update to CEQA Guidelines Pursuant to Senate Bill 743 (Steinberg, 2013)

Ms. Long reviewed the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's draft update to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and outlined staff's proposed comments for committee approval.

Committee Discussion:

- Chair Worth asked if freight access should be included in the guidelines.
- At the Committee's request, Mr. Heminger stated that MTC could add text to the letter to the Office of Planning & Research asking to consider the impact of goods movement.
- In response to a question from Commissioner Kinsey regarding staff's recommendation that the guidelines note that aesthetic and parking impacts are no longer considered grounds for a finding of significance under CEQA, Ms. Long responded that this change was made in SB 743 but is limited to Transit Priority Areas. The staff recommendation is that the revised CEQA guidelines incorporate this change to ensure awareness of the change by CEQA practitioners.

The proposed comments to the updated CEQA guidelines, with the addition of considering the impact of goods movement, were unanimously approved after a motion by Commissioner Spering and a second by Commissioner Kinsey.

MTC Policy Advisory Council

Pam Grove, Public Information Officer, presented MTC Resolution No. 3931, Revised — Appointments to Policy Advisory Council. Ms. Grove also informed the Committee that the At-Large Environmental seat became vacant due to a recent resignation.

Commissioner Kinsey moved to adopt MTC Resolution No. 3931, Revised. Commissioner Spering seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and moved to the Commission for approval.

Release of MTC's Draft 2015 Public Participation Plan

Ellen Griffin, Principal, Public Engagement, presented MTC's Draft 2015 Public Participation Plan.

Committee Discussion:

- Commissioners commended Ms. Griffin and staff for their work on MTC's Draft 2015 Public Participation Plan.
- In response to Commissioner questions, Mr. Heminger informed the Committee that MTC will work closely with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to so that forecasts reported by ABAG match state agency forecasts.
- Ms. Griffin informed the Committee that toolkits being developed will help Commissioners present to their community the goals and objectives of Plan Bay Area.

2015 Draft Advocacy Program

Ms. Long presented MTC's proposed state and federal advocacy program for 2015.

Committee Discussion:

- Commissioners commended MTC staff for adding Regional Measure 3 to the program.
- Commissioners expressed concern regarding how much pushback has occurred with respect to the proposal to establish a temporary license plate program.
- Mr. Heminger noted that much of the pushback has come from the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- Mr. Heminger informed the Committee that MTC will research the possibility of hiring more CHP officers for the purpose of toll evasion.
- Andrew Fremier, Deputy Executive Director, Operations, informed the Committee that approximately 95,000 cars per month use Bay Area bridges without toll tags or license plates, resulting in a loss of revenue of approximately \$5–\$7 million per year.
- Commissioners requested MTC look at different approaches to get legislation to implement a temporary license plate program.
- Commissioner Kinsey requested MTC consider addition to address project streamlining and design expansion.

Tom Bulger's Report

The Committee received the report as presented by Ms. Long. Ms. Long noted that former MTC Deputy Executive Director, Policy, Therese McMillan was confirmed as the Federal Transit Administration Administrator by the Senate Banking Committee. The full Senate vote has not yet been scheduled.

Other Business/Public Comment/Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:03 pm. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 12, 2014, at 9:40 a.m. in the Lawrence D. Dahms Auditorium, Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter, Oakland, California.